

## TERRORISM

BROKAW: Terrorist attacks, of course, are always tough for police and security officials to deal with. But a new brand of terrorism, the suicide bombing, is what really frightens the world's law enforcers because its potent extra ingredient is religion. In tonight's special segment, NBC News chief foreign correspondent Garrick Utley begins a three-part series on this powerful new threat by examining who's behind it.

UTLEY: The State Department in Washington, a symbol of American power and influence overseas, a natural target for Middle East terrorists. That is why concrete barriers surround the building. They are designed to stop suicide attacks, and they are there for a good reason. In meetings with intelligence sources in the Middle East and Europe and here in Washington, we have learned that the United States has received at least two warnings of a plot to blow up the State Department building; that it would involve a truck bomb similar to those used in the attacks on the U.S. Embassy and Marine headquarters in Beirut; that the terrorists were working out of Arlington, Va., and that they received their orders from Iran. Iran plays an important role in the new terrorism because under Ayatollah Khomeini it provides the religious fanaticism which has not been a factor in terrorism up till now. Iran supplies the young martyrs, who are promised a place in paradise if they give their lives in a terrorist attack, but Iran does not have the skills of modern terrorism. Syria does, and the governments of the two countries have formed an alliance aimed at a common enemy, the American presence in Lebanon. It is state terrorism. DAVID \*KEMPKE: The terrorism that took place in the Lebanon was really directed by Syrian intelligence.

UTLEY: David Kempke is a senior official in Israel's foreign ministry and the former director of the \*Mosad, the Israeli intelligence service. KEMPKE: It's inconceivable, as far as I can see, that any other country, I mean Iran or anybody else, could have directed, in such operations, from territory directly controlled by the Syrians.

UTLEY: This is the territory of the Bekaa Valley in Lebanon, where Syria allows Iranian Shiite terrorists and revolutionary guards to train. NBC News reporters have seen the Iranians here but were not allowed to take pictures of them. It is also known that Syrian intelligence agents have worked here in the Iranian Embassy in Beirut. The Iranian connection is important because Shiites are the largest single religious group in Lebanon. Many of them look to Tehran as a symbol of Shiite power, and Lebanese Shiites also provide a source of terrorists. This man is a

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central figure of the new terrorism. He is Hussein Musawi, a Lebanese Shiite, an admirer of the Iranian revolution, and an agent of Syria. He runs the terrorist camps in the Bekaa Valley. Intelligence reports say his men helped organize the bombing of the Marine headquarters. This photo was taken just moments after the explosion; it was equal to 12,000 pounds of TNT, the biggest terrorist bomb American experts have ever seen and the most sophisticated. Terrorism is war on the cheap; a way for small countries like Syria or Iran to attack a big power, like the United States, while denying that they are responsible for it. But identifying the government behind an attack like this or at the U.S. Embassy is easy; stopping the terrorists who do it isn't. The terrorist groups are so small, they are so unstructured, that Western intelligence agencies have not yet been able to penetrate them. The Islamic Jihad, the organization which claims to have carried out the major attacks, doesn't even exist. It is a cover name for the terrorists. KEMPKE: You have to strike very, very hard, not only against the terrorists, but those that help the terrorists, and that can also be countries.

UTLEY: But that would mean all-out war with Syria and Iran, so the terrorism continues. It succeeded in turning American public opinion against the Marines' presence in Lebanon, and now the Marines are leaving. But that is only part of what this new terrorism hopes to achieve, to ultimately destroy American influence and power in the Middle East. Garrick Utley, NBC News, Beirut.